

## PUGET SOUND AND ADJACENT WATERS RESTORATION PROGRAM

The Seattle District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is initiating activities for the new Puget Sound and Adjacent Waters Restoration Program and invites you to participate.

### What's new?

On Feb. 6, 2005 the Corps completed construction of the Seahurst Beach Restoration project, which is the first project under the Puget Sound and Adjacent Waters Restoration Program. More information on the project can be found [here](#). The Corps held two one-day workshops in May: - Wednesday, May 11, at the Hood Canal/Theler Wetlands Community Center in Belfair - Thursday, May 12, at the NOAA Fisheries Conference Facility at Sand Point in Seattle. More information about the workshops can be found [here](#). In June, the Corps assisted the Navy, NOAA, State of Washington Dept. of Natural Resources, and Northwest Straits Commission in an innovative training exercise to improve the health of Puget Sound using PSAWR. DNR taught Navy divers how to safely remove derelict fishing nets from rocky reef habitat. The Corps assisted with technical staff and the debris vessel, Puget, in the open-water recovery two nautical miles offshore of Point Roberts Washington. Local media covered the training. To view the TV coverage, [click here](#) To read the Kitsap Sun article, [click here](#) To read the Bellingham Herald article, [click here](#)

### Overview

The program is authorized under Section 544 of the Water Resource Development Act of 2000 and received first appropriations in federal fiscal year 2003. The program will focus on implementing critical projects for the preservation, protection and restoration of critical ecosystem processes, habitats, and functions within the Puget Sound basin.

### Initial projects

The four initial projects proposed for the program include: Seahurst Park Shoreline Ecosystem Restoration, Skokomish River Estuary Restoration, Lake Washington Sockeye Salmon Restoration (Beach Nourishment), Marine Ecosystem Restoration (Derelict Gear, Vessels and Debris). To read more about these projects, please read the information paper, which is located [here](#).

### Invitation to participate

In keeping with the authorized program, we extend our invitation to you to participate with us to implement ecosystem restoration projects. We encourage and look forward to your input in developing criteria and procedures for prioritizing ecosystem restoration projects as we continue to develop this

potentially long-term, far-reaching program. Additionally, if you have a project that you have evaluated, determined to be your highest priority, and developed complete implementation plans, please include a short project summary and state your willingness to implement the project with us. We developed a template data sheet, please [click here](#) to view the data sheet. Your project ideas are very valuable to assure we are working on the highest priorities within the Puget Sound basin. In addition to the PSAWR authority, the Corps of Engineers has several other program authorities that are available for ecosystem restoration, including Section 206 --Aquatic Restoration; Section 1135 --Restoration on Corps Projects; and the new Estuary Restoration Act of 2000.

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